GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5699
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2007
EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE OF PANCHAYATS
Nedurumalli Janardhana Reddy Shri ;Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the performance of the Panchayats are monitored and evaluated;

(b) the authority entrusted to monitor the implementation of programmes under Panchayati Raj;

(c) whether the Government proposes to introduce a mechanism of incentives and disincentives to encourage Panchayati Raj Institutions to ensure implementation of productive economic performance and employment generation programmes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has submitted its Interim Report on Devolution Index;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by which its final Report is likely to be submitted?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b): The progress in fostering and nurturing Panchayati Raj in the States is monitored on the basis of information made available by State Governments, as reflected in the Report on "The State of the Panchayats − A Mid-Term Review and Appraisal" tabled in Parliament on 23 November, 2006. Evaluation is undertaken in terms of the consensual conclusions that are contained in the Compendium adopted unanimously after the Seven Round Table conferences held between July - December, 2004, and the series of Joint Statements signed by Chief Ministers (or other authorities concerned) with the Union Panchayati Raj Minister at the end of his Panchayati Raj tours of States/UTs. Thus far, 21 such Joint Statements have been concluded. It is now proposed to undertake independent evaluation through the Institute of Rural Management at Anand (IRMA) on the basis of the Devolution Index prepared and being further refined by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER).

(c) & (d): The Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS) being implemented by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj is intended to incentivize State Governments to empower Panchayats and incentivize Panchayats to be transparent and accountable in their transactions. On the basis of the experience gained, PEAIS is being strengthened.

(e) & (f): The Fifth Round Table at Sringar in October 2004 made an initial attempt at drawing up a Devolution Index that would be fair, objective and removed from all political bias or subjective personal prejudice. The Sringar exercise was then passed on for refinement to the NCAER. The working Devolution Index prepared by NCAER is annexed. PEAIS was operationalised during 2006-07 on this basis.

(g): NCAER are continuing their work on refining and making more nuanced the Devolution Index with a view to undertaking in a measurable manner all indicators relating to the empowerment of PRIs. It is hoped to give final shape to this Devolution Index during the course of the current financial year.

Annexe

Annex referred to in parts (e) and (f) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.5699

Devolution Index Scores and Ranking of State/Union Territories

S No. State Rank Index Score

1. Kerala 1 100.00 4.51

2. Karanataka 2 88.40 3.98

3. West Bengal 3 87.70 3.95

4. Tamil Nadu 4 86.30 3.89

5. Sikkim 5 85.20 3.84
6. Madhya Pradesh 6 77.10 3.47

7 Orissa 7 76.50 3.45

8. Rajasthan 8 74.00 3.33

9. Assam 9 72.90 3.29
10. Himachal Pradesh 10 70.80 3.19
11. Andhra Pradesh 11 65.60 2.95
12. Chattisgarh 12 65.40 2.94
13. Haryana 13 62.20 2.80
14. Maharashtra 14 61.50 2.77
15. Goa 15 59.80 2.69
16. Punjab 16 56.60 2.55
17. Manipur 17 56.40 2.54
18. Gujrat 18 52.00 2.34
19. Tripura 19 50.60 2.28
20. Uttar Pradesh 20 47.60 2.15
21. Uttrankhand 21 47.00 2.12
22. Bihar 22 46.10 2.07
23. Arunachal Pradesh 23 30.30 1.42

Union Territory

1. Dadra &Nagar Haveli 1 100.00

2. Lakshadweep 2 90.70

3. A&N Islands 3 78.40

4. Danam &Diu 4 69.30

5. Puducherry 5 50.70
6. Chandigarh 6 40.20